

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

Claim 1. (Canceled) A golf ball comprising:

a core; and,

a cover layer comprising a single ionomer resin having an acid content that is at least 95% neutralized, a metal stearate, a flex modulus of at least 30 kpsi and a Shore D hardness no greater than 55.

Claim 2. (Previously presented) A golf ball comprising:

a core; and,

a cover layer comprising a single ionomer resin having an acid content that is at least 95% neutralized, a flex modulus of at least 30 kpsi and a Shore D hardness no greater than 55 and wherein the ionomer resin comprises:

a) an alpha olefin;

b) an ethylenically unsaturated carboxylic acid;

c) a metal cation in an amount sufficient to neutralize about 100% of the carboxylic acid;

d) at least one softening monomer, selected from alkyl acrylate, and alkyl methacrylate; and

e) a metal stearate.

Claim 3. (Previously presented) A golf ball comprising:

a core; and,

a cover layer comprising a single ionomer resin having an acid content that is at least 95% neutralized, a flex modulus of at least 30 kpsi and a Shore D hardness no greater than 55 and wherein the ionomer resin comprises:

a) an alpha olefin;

b) an ethylenically unsaturated carboxylic acid wherein the ethylenically unsaturated carboxylic acid is an acrylic or methacrylic acid in an amount no more than about 10% by weight;

c) a metal cation in an amount sufficient to neutralize about 100% of the carboxylic acid;

d) at least one softening monomer, selected from alkyl acrylate, and alkyl methacrylate; and

e) a metal stearate.

Claim 4. (Previously presented) A golf ball comprising:

a core; and,

a cover layer comprising a single ionomer resin having an acid content that is at least 95% neutralized, a flex modulus of at least 30 kpsi and a Shore D hardness no greater than 55 and wherein the ionomer resin comprises:

a) an alpha olefin;

- b) an ethylenically unsaturated carboxylic acid;
- c) a metal cation in an amount sufficient to neutralize about 100% of the carboxylic acid wherein the metal cation is selected from the group consisting of lithium, sodium, potassium, magnesium, calcium, barium, or zinc, or a combination of such cations;
- d) at least one softening monomer, selected from alkyl acrylate, and alkyl methacrylate; and
- e) a metal stearate.

Claim 5. (Previously presented) A golf ball comprising:

- a core; and,
- a cover layer comprising a single ionomer resin having an acid content that is at least 95% neutralized, a flex modulus of at least 30 kpsi and a Shore D hardness no greater than 55 and wherein the ionomer resin comprises:
  - a) an alpha olefin;
  - b) an ethylenically unsaturated carboxylic acid;
  - c) a metal cation in an amount sufficient to neutralize about 100% of the carboxylic acid wherein the metal cation is a magnesium cation;
  - d) at least one softening monomer, selected from alkyl acrylate, and alkyl methacrylate; and
  - e) a metal stearate.

Claim 6. (Canceled)

Claim 7. (Canceled) A golf ball according to claim 1 wherein the cover further comprises a filler material, wherein the filler material is barium sulfate.

Claim 8. (Canceled) A golf ball according to claim 1, wherein the core has a diameter of about 1.54", a weight of about 36 grams and a PGA compression of no more than about 90.

Claim 9. (Canceled) A golf ball according to claim 1, wherein the cover is no more than about 0.07" thick.

Claim 10. (Canceled) A golf ball according to claim 1, wherein the ball has an overall diameter of about 1.68" and a weight of about 45.5 grams.

Claim 11. (Canceled) A golf ball according to claim 1 wherein the ionomer resin has a melt flow index of about 0.65 g/10 min.

Claim 12. (Previously presented) A golf ball comprising:

a core having a PGA compression no greater than about 90; and,

a cover comprising a blend of:

an ionomeric terpolymer comprising the reaction of an olefin, a acrylic acid, and an alkyl acrylate;

a metal ion donor sufficient to neutralize 100% of the acrylic acid present in the ionomeric terpolymer; and,  
a stearate.

Claim 13. (Original) A golf ball according to claim 12 wherein the ball, when struck with a standard 9-iron, has a spin rate of at least 7500 rpm.

Claim 14. (Original) A golf ball according to claim 12 wherein the ball, when struck with a standard 5-iron, a spin rate of at least 4600 rpm.

Claim 15. (Previously presented) A golf ball comprising:

a core having a PGA compression no greater than about 90, comprising at least one high cis content polybutadiene, zinc oxide, zinc stearate, zinc diacrylate, an organic peroxide, and a filler material; and,

a cover comprising a blend of:

an ionomeric terpolymer comprising the reaction of an olefin, a acrylic acid, and an alkyl acrylate;

a metal ion donor sufficient to neutralize 100% of the acrylic acid present in the ionomeric terpolymer; and,  
a metal stearate.

Claim 16. (Canceled) The golf ball according to claim 1 wherein the golf ball has a PGA compression of about 85, a weight of between about 45.2 to 46.0 g, a

coefficient of restitution greater than about 0.700, and a Shore D hardness no greater than about 55 and exhibits a spin rate of at least 7500 rpm when struck with an iron.

Claim 17. (Previously presented) The golf ball according to claim 12 wherein the golf ball has a PGA compression of about 85, a coefficient of restitution greater than about 0.700, a Shore D hardness no greater than about 55, and a spin rate of at least 2700 RPM when struck with an 10° loft driver with a swing speed of about 90 mph.

Claim 18. (Previously presented) The golf ball according to claim 15 wherein the core and the cover materials are selected so that the golf ball has the following spin rate characteristics of a spin rate of at least 7500 rpm when struck with a standard 9-iron.

Claim 19. (Previously presented) The golf ball according to claim 15 wherein the core and the cover materials are selected so that the golf ball has the following spin rate characteristics:

- i) a spin rate of at least 7500 rpm when struck with a standard 9-iron; and,
- ii) a spin rate of at least 4600 rpm when struck with a standard 5 iron.

Claim 20. (Previously presented) The golf ball according to claim 15 wherein the core and the cover materials are selected so that the golf ball has the following spin rate characteristics:

- i) a spin rate of at least 7500 rpm when struck with a standard 9-iron
- ii) a spin rate of at least 4600 rpm when struck with a standard 5 iron; and
- iii) a spin rate of at least 2700 rpm when struck with a 10° loft driver with a swing speed of about 90 mph.